



500.40553X00/E6146-01CI

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Tomoichi KAMO *et al.*
Serial No. : 09/935,164
Filed : 23 August 2001
For : FUEL CELL, FUEL CELL GENERATOR,
AND EQUIPMENT USING THE SAME
Group : 1745
Examiner : Susy N. TSANG FOSTER
Conf. No : 9227

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97(c)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

26 April 2004

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application, Applicant hereby submits the attached information under 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98 for entry and consideration by the Office, and for printing on the first page of any patent issuing hereon, as listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449.

Applicant first became aware of the attached information on 26 January 2004, and states that no item of information contained in this Statement was cited in a Communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart application or known to any individual designated under §1.56 more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

The following remarks from Applicant's foreign representative are submitted in support of patentability of Applicant's claims over the cited information.

The article to Narayanan *et al.* relates to a small size fuel cell with a plurality of electrodes formed into a membrane electrolyte assembly (MEA), wherein a proton

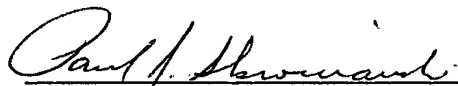
passes through an electrolyte membrane and reaches electrodes other than the opposed electrodes. As a result, high voltage cannot be attained. In the present invention, electrolyte membranes are completely separated per pair of electrodes. As a result, a proton does not reach an electro of an adjacent EMA so that higher voltage can be attained.

Chang *et al.* relates to a fuel cell in which fuel is circulated. In the present invention, fuel is not circulated but stored in a support and supplied to a MEA. As a result, a cell can be made compact without using a pump for circulation of fuel.

This Statement is being filed prior to the mailing of any Action that closes prosecution on the merits, and with the statement under §1.97(e)(2). Therefore, no fee is required for entry and consideration of the information listed herein. To whatever other extent is actually necessary, please charge any deficiency properly charged in connection with this paper to ATSK Deposit Account No. 01-2135.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner return an initialed copy of the attached PTO-1449 to indicate entry and consideration of the attached information.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments:

Form PTO-1449

Electrochem. Soc. Proceedings, Vol. 2001-4, pp.254-264

US 2002/0076597 A1

Form PTO-1449	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DKT. NO. 500.40553X00	SERIAL NO. 09/935,164
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)		APPLICANT Tomoichi KAMO <i>et al.</i>	
		FILING DATE 23 August 2001	GROUP 1745

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Ex. Initial	Doc. No.	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
AA						
AB						
AC						
AD						
AE						
AF						
AG						
AH						

U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS

	Application Number	Name	Publication Date
AI	2002/0076597 A1	Chang <i>et al.</i>	06/20/2002
AJ			
AK			
AL			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Doc. No.	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation/Abstract	
						Yes	No
AM							
AN							
AO							
AP							
AQ							
AR							
AS							
AT							

OTHER DOCUMENTS

AU	S.R. Narayanan <i>et al.</i> , "Development of a Miniature Fuel Cell for Portable Applications," <i>Electrochemical Society Proceedings</i> , Vol. 2001-4, pp. 254-264, Spring 2001.
AV	
AW	
Examiner	Date Considered